

## News from

## Congressman Ron Kind

## REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 6, 2006

## Kind Joins AFL-CIO to Release Report on Wisconsin's Working Families

Kind Outlines "Progress Agenda for Working Families" that Focuses on Jobs, Healthcare, Education, and Tax Fairness

Eau Claire, WI – In Eau Claire today, U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) joined area workers and the Wisconsin state AFL-CIO to unveil a report on how working families are faring under the policies of the Bush Administration and majority lawmakers in Congress. The first statewide analysis of its kind, the report examines the status of working families in the areas of wages, employment, retirement security, health care, tax fairness, and education. As a member of the House Education and the Workforce and Committee, Rep. Kind has been on the frontlines of many of the legislative battles impacting working families, leading the opposition against what he says is a narrow majority agenda that has left many Americans behind.

"The Administration and Republican majority have increased the burden on Wisconsin workers and their families with an agenda of misplaced priorities that puts working families last," stated Rep. Ron Kind. "Meanwhile, Democrats in Congress have offered real solutions to address the costs of health care, energy and college tuition, increase investments in education and job training, and foster job-creating economic growth. We can do better and we need to do better to reverse the disturbing trends outlined in this report."

During the press conference, Kind outlined his <u>Progress Agenda for Working Families</u>, a compilation of ideas that he and other Democrats in Congress have offered to address the hardships facing workers and their families. Among those solutions, Kind cited legislation to ensure labor rights and worker safety, promote job-creating economic growth, increase the minimum wage, address rising healthcare costs, deliver tax fairness, and strengthen investments in education and job training. He also discussed the House Democrats' Innovation Agenda, a comprehensive package of initiatives to leverage the talent, intellect, and entrepreneurial spirit of our nation's workers to grow the economy and guarantee America's economic and technological leadership throughout the world.

The AFL-CIO released the report, <u>A State of the State Report on Wisconsin's Working Families</u>, as part of its ongoing "Who's on Our Side?" campaign which is exposing the impact of federal decisions on a host of policy choices on struggling Wisconsin workers and their families. This report is one of the first comprehensive studies of the negative impact of recent federal policy decisions made by President Bush and his congressional allies on the everyday lives of Wisconsinites.

For a copy of the report and more information on Rep. Kind's Progress Agenda for Working Families, please visit Rep. Kind's Web site at <a href="https://www.house.gov/kind">www.house.gov/kind</a>.